

KLEW-TV
July 2009 – Sept. 2009

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Polly Blasko-Rippee, Executive Director Life Choices Clinic, was interviewed on 7/9/09.

Ray Rosch, Executive Director Interlink, was interviewed on 7/10/09.

Kristin Kemak, Executive Director Clarkston Chamber of Commerce, was interviewed on 7/30/09.

Bernie Sander, Battalion Fire Chief Lewiston Fire Department, was interviewed on 8/7/09.

Candi Barton, Community Health Director Public Health North Central District Health Department, was interviewed on 7/15/09.

KLEW-TV
Issues/Programs List
July 2009 – Sept. 2009

The Need to Address Influenza Preparedness

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/13/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:26

Description: KLEW News reported that Washington Health Secretary Mary Selecky says with the emergence of a new strain of “swine flu”, the virus may call for more than two flu shots this flu season. Public Health Idaho North Central District Director Carol Moehrle says the Center for Disease Control is still developing the H1N1 vaccine, and distribution will depend upon state population. Because it’s a new virus and vaccine our bodies aren’t accustomed to it and it may take two doses of vaccine to give us adequate coverage from the new H1N1 virus.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/2/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:17

Description: KLEW News reported that new rules are now in effect in Idaho when it comes to testing for the H1N1 virus. The State of Idaho will now be reporting only cases that involve hospitalization, because overall, the so-called swine flu is so common. Community Health Director, Candi Barton says in our district we haven’t had any hospitalizations since they saw the first cases in April. The valley has seen sporadic cases throughout the summer and as the flu season gets here they are expecting more cases. Almost all flu cases reported over the summer have been the H1N1 virus.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/3/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:05

Description: KLEW News reported that with H1N1 concerns continuing, people shouldn’t forget about the regular flu season that is fast approaching. During what some are calling the flu season that never really ended. Health officials are now saying get the “seasonal” shot early. Officials from Public Health Idaho say there will be plenty to go around this year, but as of now, few places in the valley have it available. A pharmacy technician at Safeway tells Action News it has been a revolving door as people are heeding the early vaccination advice.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/4/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:48

Description: KLEW News reported that Washington State University officials say more than two thousand students have been sickened with flu-like symptoms during the first two weeks of classes on the Pullman campus. School officials say there have been no deaths and no students have required hospitalization. Dr. Dennis Garcia says the school is handing out free flu kits. On its blog, WSU Health and Wellness says they had 114 people either come in or call complaining of symptoms just yesterday. There are only 8 confirmed cases of Type A flu, and health officials say 99 percent of the cases of flu are in fact H1N1.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/23/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:27

Description: KLEW News reported that students throughout the valley will be offered the swine flu vaccine right at school. Asotin County Health District administrator Joe Lillard says they expect to get the H1N1 Vaccine delivered in mid-October, and then they will schedule school clinics. Lillard says the shots are not mandatory, but a voluntary program and says that children are at high risk to get the swine flu. He strongly is encouraging parents to get their children immunized and says the vaccine will reduce the incidence of H1N1 in the schools.

The Need to Address Ambulance/Emergency Medical Services

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/28/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:54

Description: KLEW News reported that the Clarkston City Council approved putting an EMS levy on the ballot for almost \$414,000. This is a property tax measure that is put on the ballot each year with the funding going to Rescue One. Mayor Donna Engle says this year the wording was changed to allow the money to also be used for an ambulance service.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/28/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:32

Description: KLEW News reported that the Lewiston City Council will reassess their stance on ambulance service with rural Nez Perce County. The latest contract, which was for three years, was rejected at a council meeting two weeks ago. A motion to reconsider was suggested at an EMS committee meeting yesterday with two councilors present that were absent during the first vote. At last night's city council meeting, the idea of a contract was revived with a 6-1 vote.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/29/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:49

Description: KLEW News reported that Fire Chief Steve Cooper traveled to Bakersfield California to buy a new ambulance for \$43,500 with 47,000 miles on it. Cooper was authorized by the city council to buy two ambulances in efforts to start a Clarkston based service. Now that the ambulance is in Clarkston they will be working on securing an ambulance license. It takes one to three weeks to hear back from the Washington Department of Health and expects the process to go smoothly.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 8/3/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:14

Description: KLEW News reported that Asotin County signs a contract with Lewiston for ambulance transport services stationed in the Clarkston Heights at Fire District One. The deal is worth over \$381,000 from the Asotin County EMS Levy. Attorney Jane Risley says the contract covers service to Clarkston but would leave Asotin County residents without emergency medical services. Commissioner Buck Lane says that right now they are not negotiating with Clarkston for use of their ambulance but would be open to talking about it in the future if Clarkston gets a license.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/15/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 2:53

Description: KLEW News reported that citizens and first responders question the Clarkston City Council last night about their EMS plans. In response to the city signing an ordinance making the Clarkston ambulance the exclusive provider to the city, Tri-State Hospital Administrator Sister Mary Croghan asked who should they call if patients need to be transferred? Councilor Kathleen Warren says that patients at the hospital who need to be transferred will have their choice of ambulance services. Asotin county firefighter Drew Dickinson questions how do you have a mutual aid agreement EMS wide when Clarkston is not licensed in Idaho? Clarkston Fire Chief Steve Cooper has an application form for Idaho, but has not discussed submitting it, although it is a possibility.

The Need to Address Elected City/Government Relationships

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/14/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:11

Description: KLEW News reported that it was negotiated, approved, then denied, then re-negotiated, re-approved, and now re-denied. Lewiston's City Manager says the idea of a valley-wide ambulance service may not become a reality anytime soon. A contract for ambulance service in rural Nez Perce County seemed all but certain, even after a city council vote last night. But after reconsideration, the council voted to deny the new three-year service contract. City manager Jay Krauss says the council wasn't happy with city-county cooperation when it came to other budget-planning issues.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/15/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:43

Description: KLEW News reported that the Lewiston City Council decision to deny another EMS contract with Nez Perce County is leaving county lawmakers in shock. Monday, after voting in favor of a three year contract with rural Nez Perce County, they reconsidered and wound up denying the contract. City Manager Jay Krauss says the council had problems with city-county cooperation on other budget-planning issues, specifically when it came to airport and public transit funding. According to Krauss, EMS issues may not be resolved for some time.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/28/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:32

Description: KLEW News reported that the Lewiston city council will reassess their stance on ambulance service with rural Nez Perce County. When the contract was voted down, councilors cited a lack of county fund-sharing in other programs, but as the city re-evaluates the agreement it may undergo a few more changes. James Kleeburg, Lewiston city councilor says when the Nez Perce County proposal last came up and got residential fees as opposed to non-residential fees it offers preferential treatment. Given the history of our relationship, there's a little trust there he's still having some issues with.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/28/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:49

Description: KLEW News reported that a six-page recommendation by the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board is urging the city council to come to terms on five EMS contracts. EMSAB Chairperson Marcia Banta says they felt it was time to draft the report, because even after a year and a half worth of debate, as a committee, they hadn't seen enough movement on the issue. The consequences of a non-regional EMS service could be dangerous. The report, based on the 2008 call volume, claims the city would lose more than \$730,000 in the general fund budget affecting city departments and businesses. Also, reducing staff at the Lewiston Fire Department would not be an option as the department is already at basic minimum for public safety services.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 8/28/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:29

Description: KLEW News reported that Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Rex Rammell says his remark about wanting to buy hunting tags for President Obama was just a joke. Idaho Senator Mike Crapo says Rammell was out of line when he made those comments about "Obama tags." Rammell has refused to apologize for the comment. Crapo added we are engaged in a critical national debate over many major issues facing our country today. Remarks like these are not only unhelpful in that debate, but they undermine it.

The Need to Address Drugs & Alcohol Abuse

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/9/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:42

Description: KLEW News reported that Nez Perce County Sheriff's Sergeant Jay Colvin will be patrolling the rivers each weekend. Colvin says for the most part the public is doing a good job at keeping safe on the water, but drinking alcohol and using any type of watercraft is a bad thing. When the water's involved you really need to respect that and drinking and operating watercraft doesn't work. The state of Idaho doesn't have mandatory education to operate personal watercraft but he hopes for more formal boating education in Idaho. The sheriff's office is doing boat inspections for the first time this summer.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/29/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:08

Description: KLEW News reported that Valley Medical Center is teaming up with Public Health to help you quit smoking. The money is coming from the millennium fund from a settlement with the tobacco industry. Elizabeth Keys says that there are many benefits to quitting smoking but the important thing is to set your quit date. Classes will be offered on a group as well as an individual basis. The sessions will discuss nicotine replacement therapy, such as the patch, the lozenge, the gun and the inhaler. Also discussed will be the physiological impacts and how to deal with your stressors now that you aren't smoking anymore.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 8/21/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:54

Description: KLEW News reported that through Labor Day, Lewiston Police Department is using an Office of Highway Safety grant to ramp up a focus on impaired driving. Sergeant Ted Piche says all too often people think of the impaired driving as someone who has consumed alcohol. We're starting to see occurrences of people abusing prescription drugs and mix that with small amounts of alcohol. It's starting to be a real issue in the area. Piche says more hours, more patrols, and increased attention on those impaired drivers are happening.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/18/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:46

Description: KLEW News reported that it's National Drug and Alcohol Addiction Recovery month and tonight people from both sides of the river will span the Blue Bridge in support of recovery. There will be speeches by politicians and those touched by alcohol and other drugs. Asotin County Substance abuse and mental health coordinator Sherry Greenup says addiction is a huge problem in the valley. The Hands across the Bridge event will start gathering on each side of the Blue Bridge at 4:30 and then the two sides will span the bridge meeting in the middle. There will be music, free food and testimonials from 5 until 9 in Brackenbury Square.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 9/22/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 2:31

Description: KLEW News reported that Community on Call will be opening a transitional housing project called the "Tyler Project" by Easter of next year. The organization works with former inmates, those coming out of rehabilitation and others facing hard times to bring positive change to their lives. The building has been in the works for three years, built completely by volunteers and paid for by donations. Director of Community on Call, Steve Scaggs says they've found a need for this kind of assistance in the valley.

The Need to Address Services for Low-Income Residents

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/1/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:36

Description: KLEW News reported that the Idaho Foodbank is expanding their "Backpacks for Kids" program during the school year from 340 backpacks for elementary school children to 450 backpacks to feed kids. Each weekend, needy children are sent home with a backpack filled with enough food to get them through the weekend. Idaho Foodbank Director Chuck Whitman says the problem is with the economy and the loss of jobs so the demand has gone up. There are 9 different elementary schools in North Central Idaho that want the program there.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/8/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:54

Description: KLEW News reported that the Asotin County Library has seen a 22 percent increase of people who come through the door. Asotin County Library Director Jennifer Ashby says with the current economic situation, many of us are cutting down on spending and searching for ways to broaden their horizons at little or no expense. Now that families don't have the discretionary income they once had, she is seeing lots of new visitors and an increase of internet usage

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/10/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:36

Description: KLEW News reported that Idaho is due to get about 30 million dollars from the federal stimulus package. That means four to six million for the ten northern counties. Community Action Partnership is gearing up to do three times the amount of weatherization they have been doing, including hiring 30 people and opening an office in Coeur d'Alene.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 7/17/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:35

Description: KLEW News reported that a joint legislative task force has voted unanimously to ask Governor Butch Otter to shift money at the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to help pay for child immunizations in the state. Yesterday the lawmakers voted to call for reversing budget cuts of \$2.1 million to restore the state's child immunization program through the rest of this year. Idaho had covered the costs of vaccinations for every child but that program ended July 1st due to statewide budget cuts. Now, only kids who are uninsured, underinsured or who qualify for Medicaid are eligible for the free vaccines.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 8/20/09, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:27

Description: KLEW News reported that a steady stream of fruit and vegetable lovers made their way to Trinity Lutheran Church in Pullman today with empty boxes in hand to receive free food. The program is called Homegrown Help, a collaboration with Second Harvest, and Thrivent Financial Lutheran. Chris Houghlum, Lutheran Community Service Specialist says the food comes from around the region, sometimes it'll be donated to second Harvest and they'll pay the freight to get it to their warehouse where they further distribute it to projects like this.